Howland Wood - Curatorial

Stafford, Morgan H.
[Boston, MA]

1933-1937

FIFTY FEDERAL STREET
BOSTON

February 3, 1933.

Dear Mr. Wood:-

In line with our conversation of the other evening I enclose the Japanese yen to which I referred. Very much question whether you will find among them any of interest, but "one can never tell". Recently in an old scrap book of utterly uninteresting material as a whole I found a rare Yorktown note which goes to prove the saying quoted. If by some miraculous chance you should find something you wish to keep, do so. I think 2 of them, one apparently of brass & one of iron, are not Japanese, but am sending all.

It was a great pleasure to see you at the meeting & I wish you could be with us far more frequently.

Sincerely,

Morgan W. Stafford

February 6, 1933.

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford
50 Federal Street
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

Your favor enclosing the coins came Saturday. I doubt if there is anything among them that I want. I however will look them over and I'll attribute them for you as they would be more interesting if you knew the mints and years they were made. I'll try to do this in the course of a day or so.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

February 15, 1933.

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford
50 Federal Street
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I am returning by parcel post insured the Japanese coins you sent on. I have attributed these for you as they are really more interesting attributed. There was one in the lot that was a variant of one of mine and I was very glad to keep it. Again thanking you, I remain

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

50 Federal St., Boston

February 16, 1933

Mr. Howland Wood,

New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

The package of Japanese yen came safely yesterday, followed today by your letter of the 15th inst., and I want to assure you of my sincere thanks and appreciation for your kindness in attributing them; it is certainly mighty nice of you to do so, with all you must have to do. They mean something to me, now, whereas previously they were interesting merely because they were Japanese coins. I think it is remarkable that you can distinguish between the various peices which to a novice are absolutely identical. I am delighted to know at the lot sent included one variant of interest to you.

When in Boston did you see what LeBlanc had in the way of these yen? I found about forty, mostly among the Chinese pieces, and have asked him to lay them aside and make me a lump price. Meanwhile would you be kind enough to drop me just a line suggesting about what would be a fair sum for them, all, of course being unattributed. It seems to me his price for the lot should be low because of lack of information concerning them. At the same time would you please suggest some work, illustrated if such there be, on Japanese coins, including the socalled bean money, oval pieces, etc., of which I have a small assortment of perhaps twenty or thirty items, probably none of especial interest, but certainly more interesting if their identities are known.

Again assuring you of my appreciation of your kindness, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

I enclose 20¢ which I believe will about cover postage and insurance on the yen returned to me.

February 18, 1933.

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford
343 Cabot St.
Newtonville, Boston,
Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

Unfortunately I did not get in to see LeBlanc when I was in Boston. Personally I would not pay more than a few cents each for the Japanese coins that you picked out because unfortunately there is nobody who wants them and they can't sell them for much of anything. Also, you will find out of the forty there will not be more than perhaps ten varieties. He probably would want five cents each and if you feel like paying that well and good. The best work and really ammost commendable book is the Coins of the Japanese by Neil Gordon Munro. It was originally printed in Japan but Kegan Paull Tench and Trubner sold it in England. It was easy enough to get hold of about twenty years ago but it may not be so easy today. However, by keeping your eyes open at sales and in bookd shops or writing to England you may be able to get it. It should not cost more than about $3.00. I think you can find a copy in the public library.

Very truly yours,

HW:UG
JG

Curator

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

March 15, 1933

Mr. Howland Wood,

New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

I presume you have seen the auction sale catalogue of the Bolender sale of coins, etc., to be held in Orangeville, Ill., on the 25th inst., and have noticed item #809 covering 126 pieces of Japanese Kwan Ei Sen, if that is the correct way to express it. If, however, you have not, possibly you may be interested in the enclosed description cut from the catalogue in question. Of course I presume you would find precious few, if any, varieties not in your collection.

Since writing you last, I have acquired all of the Japanese Sen of this sort which I could find at LeBlanc's. I found more among his Chinese coins than among the Japanese, and picked up 40 pieces for $1.25. From my practically zero knowledge of these coins I am of course incapable of distinguishing one variety from another, but there are certain sorts that are obviously different from others, and I should say that the lot includes few, very few, duplicates.

I am glad to know of the work on Japanese coins by Munro. LeBlanc had a copy, it seems, but sold it not long since to a Pittsburgh collector with whom I am acquainted, and I will try to persuade him to let me use it for a time in an endeavor to identify some of my pieces, none of which I suppose are especially uncommon, but are certainly very interesting. If not, I will try thr Public Library, as you suggest.

With best wishes, I am,

Very truly yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

JAPANESE KWAN EI SEN COLLECTION

809. A colection of the Kwan Ei Sen of Japan, 126 varieties, issued with the same inscription Kwan Ei Tsu Ho, from many mints from 1636 to 1866, much collected in Japan. This collection is probably the third finest outside of Japan and includes 30 "Tanes" or seed sen which were used to press in the moulds to make the regular sen (worth anywhere from 50c to $3.00 each in Japan). Full detailed attribution on envelope of each coin. 114 bronze, 12 iron sen. Condition excellent. Too fine a collection to be broken up. Unique and interesting. 126 pcs.

EIGHTY-SECOND

AUCTION SALE

of RARE COINS AND PAPER MONEY

TO BE SOLD

Saturday, March 25, 1933

By the Cataloguer

M. H. BOLENDER

ORANGEVILLE, ILLINOIS

March 17, 1933.

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford
343 Cabot St.
Newtonville, Boston
Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

Many thanks for acquainting me with the Kwan Ei Sen collection in Bolender's sale. I have seen this and it is a most remarkable collection. Unfortunately there is nothing in it that I want. I am glad to note that you have become interested in these coins and hope you will find something worthwhile among LeBlanc's pieces.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

April 30, 1933

Mr. Howland Wood,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

In Bolender's sale of March 25 I succeeded in bidding in six lots of which four appear to have been more less identified with you, I am glad to say. Among them was #809 listed as "126 varieties, with full detailed attribution on envelope of each coin, and as probably the third finest collection outside of Japan." Upon receiving the lot I was pleased to find the attributions in your handwriting. In preparing the labels I have noticed a number of descriptions which appear to be identical, and wonder if they are "variants", and also if your numbers, which appear on each envelope, have any especial significance. They are not consecutive. Do they refer to some printed list of Kwanei Sen? I have arranged them in chronological order. Conbining the pieces you recently identified for me, some of which appear to be different varieties than those in Lot #809, and a number out of the 40 which I purchased of Le Blanc which appear to be still other varieties, I imagine my collection must be a rather good one.

I also bid in Lots #1001, and #1004, the former described as "a collection" of 93 Chinese cash, "all labeled", "from first Century to present day"; the latter as 43 Annam cash coins "described". From the descriptions I understood both lots were composed of varieties, and that each carried a description of some sort, but the Chinese cash carried but 37 labels out of 93, and the Annam pieces 25 out of 43, and there were apparently many duplicates among the latter. Upon writing to Mr. Bolender he replied that the lots were consigned to him by theAmerican Numismatic Society, examined, classified, and described by you, and were guaranteed by the leading, or rather"foremost" expert in the United States who examined and attributed them, to be genuine. I am somewhat puzzled by his statement in the catalogue that the Chinese pieces were "all labeled", while I could find but 37 descriptions, and similarly by his description of the Annam cash, and am therefore writing to ask if you can recall them and whether all carried labels when they left you, for of course there is a chance that some of them were in some manner lost. Bolender's reply to my letter of remonstrance and my expressed wish to return the coins as not satisfactory and in my opinion ambiguously catalogued, was of such an offensive tone that I shall have nothing further to do with him. The labels on the strings of Chinese cash do not look to me like your writing. They were included, apparently, in a Brookline consignment and I am wondering just how accurate the cataloguing was. If you care to make any comments I would be glad to have them. The amount involved is comparatively trifling, but so far as Bolender is concerned there is a rather imprttant principle involved, although it is now a closed incident so far as the purchase is concerned. The fourth lot I referred to was the pamphlet on Common Chinese Coins, by Watson, which apparently came from your library.

I realize you are a busy man but if sometime at your leisure you would be willing to drop me a line concerning the two lots above referred to I would be pleased.

Very truly yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

May 2, 1933.

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford
343 Cabot Street
Newtonville, (Boston), Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I have been away for the past six weeks, most of the time in the hospital, and have just got back to my desk today. The Kwan Ei Sen was a lot that I attributed and sent to Bolender. Where several coins appear under the same number they are minor varieties. The numbers refer to a book in Japanese known as the Kwan Ei Senpu, which is the book chiefly used by collectors in Japan, although it is not the most complete. It is rather hard to get and I have been a number of months trying to get one in Japan. From an advance notice I got from Bolender I should judge you got this lot cheap enough. The

The Chinese and Annamese coins were part of my old collection when I was living in Brookline, most of which was sold years ago. These pieces were as they came back from a collector about five years ago, after he had picked out what he wanted. The Chinese ones were strung on strings or wires and although I did not look at these carefully I supposed the labels under each group identified one or more coins. Presumably where you have several coins with a certain label they belong to the emperor classed under that label. There may be minor varieties of the same inscription or there may have been different inscriptions, as some emperors had a number of different titles.

The Annamese coins were laid out in flat rows and wrapped in a paper. I did not go over these but saw that they apparently were sufficiently labeled. Presumably Bolender copied what I wrote on each package - he generally does. Therefore, if so, I do not consider him to blame as he naturally knows nothing of Chinese coins. I know I sent him a lot of those to sell and I packed them up in a hurry as I was going to the hospital in a few days. Also, I knew they would not bring much and it would not pay to put much time on them. As a matter of fact I doubt if the Kwan Ei Sen brought enough to pay for the classifying of them. I trust this explanation will help you some.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

May 6, 1933

Mr. Howland Wood,
New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

Your favor of the 2nd. inst is at hand and I am very sorry to learn of your having been in the hospital. I sincerely trust that you are by now quite recovered and will keep in good physical trim.

Under the circumstances I am sorry I troubled you about the Bolender lots of Chinese and Annamese coins, for you have had enough on your mind without trivial matters of this sort. I thank you for what you told me concerning them, and feel I now have a better understanding of the matter. Had it not been for Bolender's insolent reply to a perfectly courteous and reasonable letter, I would have dropped it at once, but I felt I wanted to check up to some extent on his assertions. I realize, as I did on the start, that I obtained the lots cheap and on that score I have had nothing to complain of, the point at issue being the accuracy of his cataloguing. However, the incident is now entirely closed.

For a long time I have been picking up strange and unusual forms of money. If at any time you happen to have anything along this line in Chinese, Japanese, or other sorts, which you contemplate disposing of and have no one else in mind, may I ask if you will give me an opportunity to consider purchase? I would appreciate your doing so.

Again thanking you for your letter and hoping that you will keep well, I am,

Very truly yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

October 1, 1935

Mr. Howland Wood,
Care American Numismatic Society,
New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

An acquaintance has offered me some Chinese pieces, of odd shapes and sizes, which appear to me to be some sort of amulet or temple money rather than regular issues of coinage, although the original owner who was for some years a missionary in Central China claimed they were straignt coins. He was captured and killed by bandits and his brother, a Boston business man went on to China, recovered the body, and brought it, together with his effects to this country. I wonder if it is worth while to send them on to you for examination? I enclose very crude finger rubbings which may possibly serve to give you some idea as to their appearance. There are a couple of pieces of "Pu" money, small in size, which appear to be genuine. In addition there are several short strings of cash, largely dating from the 1100's, as near as I can make out from John G. Watson's "Common Chinese Coins", the only work on the subject I have, and I am confessedly very poorly posted on coins of this sort. One can never tell, when ignorant on matters of this sort, but frankly they appear to me to be of comparatively little value, and if it is not asking too much I would be glad to have your advice and am of course desirous of paying you for their examination, for I do not expect you to do this without compensation. If after looking at the enclosed rubbings you think it worth while I will send on the larger pieces, 7 in number, and perhaps half a dozen cash. I enclose s stamped envelope and will appreciate hearing from you at your convenience.

The Boston Numismatic Society had its first meeting of the season last evening at the City Club, with a fair number in attendance. Nothing very exciting, mostly business, and verbal passages between Wheeler and Willy to enliven things.

I have acquired a few more Kwan ei sen (?) within the last few months and sometime would like to send them on to you for identification, for I cannot make much out of them so far as variations go. Like coons, all of these interesting coins look alike to me at present.

With very kind regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

October 5, 1935

Mr. Howland Wood,
New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

Many thanks for your kind favor of the 4th inst. about the Chinese so-called coins. Your verdict confirms absolutely what I supposed them to be, fakes pure and simple, although from what a local party supposed to know coins said, I thought there was a chance of their being some sort of temple money, or talismen, as you term them. I also note that the smaller, round pieces, are of very little value. I will report accordingly to my friend, and am grateful to you for your help.

Later on I will send you a few of the kwan ei sen and will be glad if you would identify them for me, and straighten out two labels which have probably become shifted.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

343 Cabot Street,
Newtonville, Mass.,
February 7, 1937

Howland Wood, Esquire,
Care American Numismatic Society,
Broadway & 156 Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Wood:

The passing of George Marvin came to me as a very distinct surprise and a personal loss, for I had known him for years and our relations had always been most cordial and friendly. As a member for a long time of the Bostonian Society I had come in contact with him frequently and I regarded him as a most efficient and capable official of that institution.

A short time before his illness took him from his duties there he called me in to discuss the matter of doing some genealogical work which he explained had been placed in his charge in your belalf, and he commissioned me to carry out certain ancestral lines, limiting me to $25. in work for December, and not over $50. monthly thereafter until instructed by him to the contrary. In line with these instructions I did a considerable amount of work in December, carrying out quite a number of lines and laying the foundation for further work. I explained to him that normally my cgarges are $2.50 per hour, plus such expenses as might be necessary, but that in getting started again in genealogical research I had reduced tham for the time being to $2.00, and that in this particular instance I would charge but $1.50 per hour, plus necessary expenses, which have thus far been nil. Later on, if the plan we discussed is carried out, it may be necessary to examine records in and about Dartmouth, Mass., and perhaps elsewhere, including Providence. Because of his illness I did nothing on the work in January, for I desired to discuss the results attained in December before doing so, and the opportunity of course never came. In December I put in fifteen hours of work for which I have notes only to show; this amounts to $22.50. Now, what I would like to know is, whether or not he told you of this arrangement with me, and whether you are willing to recognise it and allow me to carry on along the plan he and I discussed, and I would be glad to hear from you at your convenience.

The depression knocked the business I had been in for years into a cocked hat. For 14 years I was with an investment house, 12 of them as treasurer, but the corporation decided to liquidate its affairs in January of 1935, and since then I have been doing occasional genealogical work, which prior to the World War had been mu vocation, with a large clientelle scattered well over this country and even to India and Europe. I am now doing special work as a member of a committee of a co-operative bank, of which I have for years been a board member. How long this will continue I do not know at present, but I will probably be able to hadnle the pedigree work for you at the same time if you wish to have it continued. Incidentally, I hope to complete a genealogy of the Kidder family before long, after many years of work on it, devoting my own time gratis against the payment of expenses including publication by a member of the family able to finance it. It will be a work of some 900 pages and a big task, as you may imagine.

The death of Mr. Wheeler was a great loss to our Numismatic Society. We hope to increase our membership substantially this year.

With very kind regards and trusting that I may hear from you ere long, I am,

Sincerely yours, Morgan P. Stafford

February 10, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot Street,
Newtonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

The death of my brother-in-law George was both a shock and a surprise. Although heswas taken down just before Christmas, he had improved so that we thought his tenure of life would gonon for some time.

The last time I talked over matters with him was at Thanksgiving. He did mention the fact that he might delegate some of the work to others but mentioned no names. I am very glad to know that you were the one who was chosen.

A Mrs. A. N. Dudley, who was the Secretary and bookkeeper, for his father and later for George, and was in close touch with him, now has all of the manuscript. I have asked her to send this on to me so as to see just how much George has done and after I look it through, would be very glad to have you continue it, providing Mrs. Dudley has not made other arrangements. I have just written her to find out.

Please send me your bill for work already done. This is perfectly all right. Also, let me know just the lines that George mapped out for you to do. I appreciate that your charg s of $1.50 an hour are very reasonable. This is the arrangement I had with George and I would not want to pay more because I can see where the work can extend over a considerable time. Until I get the manuscript back and have heard from Mrs. Dudley I really cannot authorize you to go ahead. I, however, very much doubt if she has found anyone else. Possibly you saw the lines I had already followed out and as you say, it is quite extensive. One of the things I want to get would be ancestors that came over in the Mayflower. I have one. Those that might be founders and patriots or were in French and Indian Wars and the Revolutionary War. I think I have three Colonial Governors and one Revolutionary person. Nearly all my family were Quakers but perhaps some o them did something for the cause.

The next time I get to Boston I will let you know so that we can have a talk.

In the meantime, I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

February 19, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
543 Cabot St.
Newtonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I received the genealogical material the other day from Mrs. Dudley and have been going over some of it. Up to date I have not heard from you and was wondering how much of this material to send on to you. When I hear from you I can judge better just what to send you.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

343 Cabot Street,
Newtonville, Mass.,
February 27, 1937

Howland Wood, Esquire,
Care American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th Street,
New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

Your favor of the 23rd inst. enclosing check for $22.50 has been received and I thank you for the same. It is gratifying to know that you are pleased with my brief report on lines extended and I sincerely trust my future efforts will be equally pleasing; I will certainly do my best to make them so.

As soon as I receive your sheets I will see what additional lines can be carried out and later on when you send Mrs. Wood's, I will extend as many as I can of hers. The Doane Genealogy is, as you say, well done and is one of those I had in mind when I spoke in a former letter of some of the more reliable works of the kind; I believe it requires little if any checking. As George made no mention of this as an exception I have carried out several of the Doane lines and will send you a transcript in a few days so that you need not duplicate my work, which as a matter of fact required but little time.

The Howland lines are not difficult as a rule, but I would not trust to Arnold's Vital Records of Rhode Island to any extent, for they are not regarded as accurate or complete to any alarming extent. I assume, however, that your reference is not to works of this class but to studies of the Howland family. They were all prominent in early Colonial days and have been well written up. I descend from John Howland through at least four lines and belong to the John Howland Descendants.

I will of course be governed by your limitation as to monthly work and will send in monthly statements. I wish to thank you for this commission and will apply myself to it with more than usual interest because of our friendship, although I do my best for every client. Incidentally, I have just landed a $3,000. commission for which I have been angling for months past. It involves the compilation of a small but very prominent Boston and Essex County Family.

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

March 8, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot Street,
Newtonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I am sending you by express the loose-leaf binder which George started. In the back you will find various notes and the data on small yellow sheets that I gave him to work on. He has transcribed many of these to the regular sheets and has checked on my lists those so transcribed. You will note, however, that he only partly did this.

I am holding out for a while the Ritchie, Eliot, Pope and Greenleaf lines.

I am glad to know that you have landed such a good commission.

I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

March 13, 1937

Mr. Howland Wood,
Care American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 156th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Your favor of the 8th inst is at hand, and the package containing genealogical records has also been safely received.

At the earliest opportunity I will go over the material and line things up for work, strictly following your instructions as to the lines to be extended and omitted, for the present at least. I assume you wish the lines George Marvin did not transcribe taken care of and will do so unless otherwise advised. This ought not to take much time, however. I hope to get started on the real research soon and will keep you advised of progress.

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

Apr. 2, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot St.,
Newtonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I am herewith sending you the balance of my geneology which I have been checking up. George had been working a little on the Greenleaf-Pope lines and I think I have already incorporated all of his findings. Send me a bill for the work done and I will send you a check at once.

I trust you are making headway and I expect to be in Boston in either May or June. I probably will be staying at Wellesley Hills and can easily telephone you and run over and see you.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
encl.

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

May 6, 1937

Howland Wood, Esquire,
Care American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th Street,
New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

Your kind favor of the 1st inst. reached me Monday and I wish to thank you for the $100. check enclosed. I feel mortified to think that owing to circumstances beyond my control and incident to the special bank work to which I referred in a previous letter, I have been able to devote but a small part of the time contemplated to your commission, but the situation is rapidly clearing and I will soon have the necessary time at my disposal. In addition to the bank committee work I have had to clean up three genealogical commissions started about the time George Marvin passed away and before you kindly commissioned me to go ahead with the work he had started. Under the circumstances I do hope you will bear with me a short time longer and accept my expression of sincere regret for the unforseen delays. By the time you come to Boston later this month or early in June I hope to have some interesting results to show for time already spent and to be devoted to your search for new ancestors. Meanwhile I shall not use the check but will hold it until I have done enough work to show results of a worthwhile nature, and that will be soon.

I feel deeply interested in your problems and find quite a number which run paralel to my own in the Cape Cod, or Plymouth, region, and I hope I can dig out some more good Mayflower lines.

Again thanking you for your thoughtfulness in sending the check and with very kind regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

May 21, 1937

Mr. Howland Wood,
Care American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, at 156th Street,
New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

Just a few lines at this time to say that I have been very hard at work for some days past on the genealogical work and have made considerable headway, details of which I will show you when you come to Boston. I have carried your Wood line back two more generations, bringing in the well known Earle family of Portsmouth, R. I., and Dartmouth; have worked the Baxter line back tentatively three generations and may be able to tie on to a Mayflower passenger, John Howland through Temperance Gorham; and hope tomorrow to show good results on other lines. So far what I have done is in "the rough", so to speak, or in other words is in note form, to be inserted later, after certain verifications. But I will tell you all about it when I see you; meanwhile will keep at it and try to red-pencil more pages, for all new material I find is added in that color.

I hope you will be here for the Boston Numismatic Society's meeting next Monday, when as the notice informed you, we hope to have representatives from several of the other New England coin organizations meet with us.

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

May 28, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot Street,
Newtonville,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

My plan now is to be in Boston and neighborhood the first week in June. I will call you up and make an appointment either on June 2nd or 3rd.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

343 Cabot Street, Newtonville, Mass.,
June 12, 1937

Howland Wood, Esquire,
Care American Numismatic Society,
New York City

In account with MORGAN H. STAFFORD

Genealogical research to June 12, 1937 incl., 128½ hrs. @ $1.50 per hr.,	$192.75
Credit by check received May 6, 1937,	100.00
Balance due,	$ 92.75

RECEIVED PAYMENT
June 16, 1937
Morgan H. Stafford

June 15, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot Street,
Newtonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

O.K. on the work you have done. Keep on. Don't forget that George Marvin did not transfer on to the sheets all of the names I had on the little yellow sheets and it might be well to incorporate all that I have done on to your sheets so as not to duplicate any work unless you know verification might be necessary. As I told you, these are mostly taken from the Hovland Heirs and the Doan Genealogy.

I am herewith enclosing my check plus $25.00 additional for expenses.

After leaving you that day I was calling on a Mrs. Nichols of West Newtown and happened to mention about having some genealogical work done and she was anxious to have a little more done on hers and I gave her your name and address so if you have not heard from her you possibly will. Naturally I gave her no indication of your charges.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
encl.

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

June 19, 1937

Howland Wood, Esquire,
Care American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th Street,
New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

Many thanks for the check enclosed with your favor of the 15th inst. I enclose receipted statement herewith

I think I have "posted" all the memoranda from the yellow sheets you speak of to my work sheets so that duplication of effort may be avoided. I think some of the items may have to be checked for I have discovered a few errors incidental to the new work, but I will of course avoid this as much as I can, for your work and George's has of course been carefully done.

Thank you very much for giving my name to Mrs. Nichols of West Newton. I have not heard from her thus far but imagine I will later on. I appreciate your doing so.

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

June 30, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford
343 Cabot St.
Newtonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I am enclosing a recent catalogue of Walford Brothers of English family histories, etc., thinking it might interest you. I have no use for it.

Trusting you are still making good progress, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
encl.

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

July 3, 1937

Howland Wood, Esquire,
Care American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, at 156th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Many thanks for the interesting catalogue of English family histories, issued by Walford Brothers, which you so thoughtfully sent to me. I am glad to have it.

While I have made some progress since I last wrote I have not been able to devote a great deal of time recently to your search because of other commissions which I have in hand, especially a large order for which I worked for months and on which I felt it necessary to mark a substantial start. I expect to make a start on your work on Tuesday or Wednesday next and hope to report before long that I have unearthed a lot of new material. I plan to run down to Providence, and possibly Newport, soon, in the hope of picking up information that will enable me to extend a number of new and interesting lines, and later on to go to the Cape where I will certainly be surprised and disappointed if I do not find a lot in unpublished town records. I will report further within a short time.

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

P. S. Mrs. Nichols called and gave me an order to trace down a family problem, a rather knotty one, but I hope to find what she is after. Thanks for referring her to me; I will, of course, do my best for her.

July 7, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
348 Cabot St.
Newtonville,
Boston, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I am glad Mrs. Nichols called you up as it is well to have plenty of work ahead. Don't feel you have to hurry on my work as I certainly do not want to block you from doing anything more lucrative or more important.

I forgot whether I mentioned to you or not, but in the Coggeshall line of my wife, there is one hitch, between names that I think are alike. As it now stands, it is not either definite or proven that two different ones are the same or not, or whether there is a jump in the generation.

I trust when you get to Providence, Newport and other places you will be able to feel well repaid for going there.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

August 12, 1937

Mr. Howland Wood,
Care American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 156th Street,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Since my last letter I have put in considerable time on your search and have made good progress in carrying out lines, some of which balked me for some time. I am sorry that after working on certain of the lines in Boston yesterday I left my material in my drawer at the rooms of the New England Historic Genealogical Society so at this writing am unable to apporach a detailed report, but I recall that among the lines discovered are the Ryders, Ellis's, Swains, Perrys, Bournes, Nickersons, and one new Covell line, and of course many of the allied families.

I have deferred the Cape and Rhode Island trips until I have a complete schedule of the material I want to work on there; and the same for New Bedford and Barnstable. Next week I expect to work in the Lynn Public for clues in the Boston Evening Transcript genealogical files which they have for many years back, all carefully indexed and well arranged. As sources this class of data is not very reliable, but much very valuable material can be located through the innumerable questions and answers, and I have reason to believe some of our Cape Cod problems have been discussed in times past through these columns of the Transcript, especially the Covells and allied lines, and I hope for valuable clues.

The intense heat we have had for the past ten days has slowed down my genealogical work a good deal and I hope for a change soon so that I can get down to business in real earnest once more.

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

343 Cabot Street,
Newtonville, Mass.,
August 12, 1937

Howland Wood, Esq.,
Care American Numismatic Society,
New York City

In account with MORGAN H. STAFFORD

Genealogical research June 12, 1937 to July 31, 1937,
$52\frac{1}{2}$ hours @ $1.50, $78.75

Aug. 18, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot St.
Newbonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

Your letter at hand and I am herewith sending you my check for $78.75. I suppose the $25.00 for expenses on the previous check will go towards the trips out of town later. I should judge by the names you have given me, like Ryder, Ellis, Swain, Perry, Bourne, Nickerson, that they are all Rhode Island names. They so sound to me.

Evidently the Covell family were of some account. I do not remember ever having heard of them especially.

We certainly have been having hot weather and I don't blame you for doing nothing more than you positively can.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

August 20, 1937

Howland Wood, Esq.,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Your favor of the 18th inst. enclosing check for $78.75 is at hand and I thank you for the same. Yes, I plan to use the $25. previously sent for several trips I shall have to make a little later on; as stated, I am deferring them until I know more definitely than at present just what I want to look for, for I wish to avoid going over the ground more than necessary.

The Ryder, Perry, Bourne and other names I mentioned are all of Cape Cod, with one or two exceptions, and through some of them I hope to land some interesting early Plymouth lines, some of them Mayflower passengers. The Covell family is at present a puzzle, with three Ephraims so far, and apparently all different persons, and each with a wife Mercy! Do you wonder that I sometimes exclaim "Oh Mercy"? More later.

Jumping from genealogy to numismatics and mutual friends, did you see Stack's advertisement to the effect that he is selling Reinhold Faelton's collection of ancient coins this Fall? The better Boston collections seem to be going under the hammer, between this one, Wheeler's, and Russell Burrage's. I am surprised that Mr. Faelton did not place it in Europe.

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

August 27, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot Street
Newtonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I am glad you called my attention to the advertisement in the Numismatist concerning the Faelton collection. I had overlooked this. I understand Stack has been getting pretty good prices and he may do as well with Stack as with anyone.

Faelton had vast quantities of Egyptian copper and base coins and if sent to Europe these would probably have been slaughtered. With these I think he can do far better in this country than anywhere else. As for his better stuff, that is always a gamble.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

October 16, 1937

Mr. Howland Wood,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Wood:

Since last writing you I have continued to make good progress in the work of extending the various lines. Several of the most perplexing problems have yielded to persistent search and I hope soon to have more cleaned up. One of them was the ancestry of "Elsie Pierce" who married Jabez Luther. The Christian name "Elsie" did not sound quite right for her day and generation and I finally found that she was "Alice", and that her surname was spelled Pearce, and with that start I cleaned up her line to the firstcomer, George, and brought in the Wilbor, Brownell, and Hart families. I have also cleared up much of the Hicks pedigree, bringing in some interesting families, including the Winslows which I have yet to investigate further, for it may lead to some interesting Plymouth Colony lines. Other families entering this section are the Albros, Clarkes, Eastons, and Doanes. These are but a few of the additions made. I understand you expect to be in Boston within a few days and will show you the results of my efforts to date, and I wonder if it might not be a good idea for you to take my copy back to New York with you for Mrs. Wood to see, as some of the lines are on her side of the house of Wood. You can return it at your convenience, for I have sufficient records aside from those in that particular binder to enable me to work without it for a time. I found it possible to solve some of the problems without leaving Boston, for the time being at least, so have not had to go to the Cape or to Rhode Island thus far. As I wrote you before, I want to save all the work I can for those trips and not have to repeat them. Under these circumstances I am using your advance for travelling expenses as a credit on research, as you will note from the enclosed statement.

The past two months have been difficult ones because of too many outside irons in the fire, a factor, which combined with the Thorndike and other searches, has greatly handicapped me in my work on your lines. I have resigned from all outside secretaryships, etc., with the sole exception of the Boston Numismatic Society, which I have been prevailed upon to hold for the balance of the year, when I will relinquish that also, and be able to work on genealogical research without hindrance. I found myself working some days ten hours or so, between directorships, secretaryships, etc., and it was proving too much. Much of it was non-productive and for the good of causes in which I had no especial interest, with the exception of the Numismatic Society, in which I am deeply interested.

As I am planning to be out of town within the next week or ten days, more or less, Will you be good enough to advise me as to when you expect to be in Boston in order that I may arrange my plans accordingly?

Looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you soon, I am as ever,

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

Oct. 18, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot Street,
Newtonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I am planning to be at the next club meetin and will be in Boston on Monday, the 25th. If convenient to you, I would like to have a chat with you sometime that day. Drop me a line where and when.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

October 20, 1937

Howland Wood, Esquire,
Care American Numismatic Society,
Broadway, at 156th Street,
New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

Yours of the 18th inst is at hand, with check enclosed for $35.75, for which please accept my thanks. I enclose receipted statement herewith.

Would it be convenient for you to meet me at the Bookshop, 45 Bromfield Street, on Monday next, at say one o'clock? We could lunch together at the Parker House and talk things over. The telephone number there, (Bookshop), is Liberty 6497, and if you should wish to change the date, my brother who is at the Bookshop all the time will be glad to take any message for me, or you could call my house, Newton North 1378, and leave work with Mrs. Stafford.

Looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you soon, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

Nov. 4, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot Street,
Newtonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I am enclosing a memorandum made by George Marvin. I forget whether this information was sent you at the time of the geneology. Also, will you please send me those yellow memorandums that were in the back of the book that George had as these are the ones that contain all of the geneology as I had it. There are one or two things I wish to check up.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks
encl.

Nov. 15, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot St.,
Newtonville, Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

I am herewith sending you a check for $58.00 and by express I am returning the book and the yellow sheets.

I find several of the yellow sheets gone. Possibly you took them out for reference. They were chiefly on Mrs. Wood's lines, I think the Popes, Richies and other lines. I would hate to have these lost as they were pretty extensive and carefully worked out. I know one of them went back to Tristam Coffin. I think I told you at the time that George Marvin did not copy everything from these yellow pages in his notebook. I suppose you are cognizant of this and have copied those that are marked in red because I notice several cases of those you have in red are the same as my notes.

I have made a notation on 0-17 which I wish you would check. Evidently Jonathan Sparrow had two wives. My notation is that Richard Sparrow is the son of the second wife who is a descendent of William Bradford. Of course I may be all wrong on this.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW KS
ENCL.

MORGAN H. STAFFORD
343 CABOT STREET
NEWTONVILLE, (BOSTON)
MASSACHUSETTS

November 25, 1937

Mr. Howland Wood,
Care American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 156th Street, New York City

Dear Mr. Wood:

Many thanks for your favor of the 15th inst enclosing check for $58.oo. I enclose receipted statement herewith.

When I sent you the yellow sheets I overlooked a second lot in your binder, I am sorry to say. I have every scrap received from you intact with other material received, and all of it enclosed in a heavy envelope marked as your property. Shall I send you the remaining notes?

Yes, you did tell me that George Marvin had not copied all his notes from the yellow sheets to his binder and as it was understood at the time I started in with him that I was to carry out all lines with the exceptions of the Ritchie, Marvin, and a few others on which he was at work, I proceeded to do so from the point where I found the entries on his sheets in line with his instructions. At the time I did not have the yellow sheets to use and so duplicated work. As a matter of fact, however, I would have checked all of it anyway, for errors will creep in in spite of one's best efforts to be 100% correct on the start. I find that I inadvertently failed to enter on the sheets I gave you all the work I had on my own regular "rough" work-sheets, although there cannot be many omissions.

The information concerning the ancestry of Capt. Jonathan Sparrow was taken from what appeared to be reliable sources, but some days before the receipt of your letter I checked it and found a confusing lot of statements. I finally sifted it down, and find he married three times: 1st., Rebecca, daughter of Edward Bangs, said by some to have been the mother of Richard, born in 1669/70; 2ndlt., Hannah, daughter of Gov. Thomas Prence by his wife Patience Brewster, and widow of Nathaniel Mayo; and 3rdly., Sarah, daughter of George Lewis, and widow of James Cobb whose daughter Mercy married Richard Sparrow. Patience Brewster was daughter of Elder William Brewster, and I do not know of any Bradford connection in that line, but will check further in view of your statement that William Bradford was an ancestor of Capt. Jonathan Sparrow. I will chech the Doane matter and advise you as to what I find.

Many thanks for the Walford Brothers book catalogue. I am very glad indeed to have it.

Very truly yours,

Morgan H. Stafford

Nov. 29, 1937

Mr. Morgan H. Stafford,
343 Cabot Street,
Newtonville (Boston), Mass.

Dear Mr. Stafford:

Your letter just at hand and as long as you have the various yellow slips I sent on that is all I care about as I did not want to have them lost as they represent a good deal of work compiled by one of the members of the family assisted by George, Mr. Marvin, Sr., and one or two others.

As you say, errors are likely to happen. I did not mean to say William Bradford but Elder Brewster in relation to the ancestry of Captain Jonothan Sparrow. All I really want there was to be able to know whether Sparrow was of the first or the second wife.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW s